

KNO

- When heroes knock their knotty heads together,
And fall by one another. *Rome.*
3. To knock down. To fell by a blow.
He began to knock down his fellow citizens with a great
deal of zeal, and to fill all Arabia with an unnatural medley
of religion and bloodshed. *Addison's Freeholder, No. 50.*
A man who is gross in a woman's company, ought to be
knocked down with a club. *Clarissa.*
4. To knock on the head. To kill by a blow; to destroy.
He betook himself to his orchard, and walking there was
knocked on the head by a tree. *South's Sermons.*
Excess, either with an apoplexy, knocks a man on the head;
or with a fever, like fire in a strong-water-shop, burns him
down to the ground. *Grew's Casnet.*
- KNOCK. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. A sudden stroke; a blow.
Some men never conceive how the motion of the earth
should wave him from a knock perpendicularly directed from
a body in the air above. *Brown's Vulgar Err. l. vii.*
Ajax belabours there an harmless ox,
And thinks that Agamemnon feels the knocks. *Dryden.*
2. A loud stroke at a door for admission.
Guiscard, in his leathern frock,
Stood ready, with his thrice-repeated knock;
Thrice with a doleful found the jarring grate
Rung deaf and hollow. *Dryden's Dossace.*
- KNOCKER. *n. f.* [from knock.]
1. He that knocks.
2. The hammer which hammers at the door for strangers to strike.
Shut, shut the door, good John! fatigued, I said,
Tie up the knocker, say I'm sick, I'm dead. *Pope.*
- TO KNOCK. *v. a.* [from knell.] To ring the bell, generally
for a funeral.
Had I as many sons as I have hairs,
I would not wish them to a fairer death,
And so his knell is knoll'd. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
- TO KNOCK. *v. n.* To found as a bell.
If ever you have look'd on better days,
If ever been where bells have knoll'd to church. *Shakespeare.*
- KNOCK. *n. f.* A little hill. *Ains.*
- KNOCK. *n. f.* [A corruption of knap.] Any tufted top. *Ains.*
- KNOT. *n. f.* [Cnocca, Saxon; knob, German; knutte, Dutch;
knutte, Erse.]
1. A complication of a cord or string not easily to be disen-
tangled.
He found that reason's self now reasons found
To fasten knots, which fancy first had bound. *Sidney.*
As the fair vestal to the fountain came,
Let none be startled at a vestal's name,
Tir'd with the walk, she laid her down to rest;
And to the winds expos'd her glowing breast,
To take the freshness of the morning air,
And gather'd in a knot her flowing hair. *Addison.*
2. Any figure of which the lines frequently intersect each other.
Garden knots, the frets of houles, and all equal figures,
please; whereas unequal figures are but deformities. *Bacon.*
Our sea-wall'd garden, the whole land,
Is full of weeds, her fairest flowers choked up,
Her knots disorder'd. *Shakespeare, Rich. II.*
It fed flow'rs worthy of paradise, which not nice art
In beds and curious knots, but nature boon,
Pour'd forth profuse on hill and dale, and plain. *Milton.*
Their quarters are contriv'd into elegant knots, adorned
with the most beautiful flowers. *More.*
Henry in knots involving Emma's name,
Had half-express'd, and half-conceal'd his flame
Upon this tree, and as the tender mark
Grew with the year, and widen'd with the bark,
Venus had heard the virgin's soft address,
That, as the wound, the passion might increase. *Prior.*
3. Any bond of association or union.
Confirm that amity
With nuptial knot, if thou vouchsafest to grant
That virtuous lady Bona. *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*
Richmond aims
At young Elizabeth, my brother's daughter,
And by that knot looks proudly on the crown. *Shakespeare.*
I would he had continued to his country
As he began, and not unknit himself.
The noble knot he made. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*
Why left you wife and children,
Those precious motives, those strong knots of love. *Shak.*
Not all that Saul could threaten or persuade,
In this close knot, the smallest looseness made. *Cowley.*
4. A hard part in a piece of wood caused by the protuberance
of a bough, and consequently by a transverse direction of
the fibres. A joint in an herb.
Taking the very refuse among those which served to no use,
being a crooked piece of wood, and full of knots, he hath
carved it diligently, when he had nothing else to do. *Wyd.*
Such knots and crossness of grain is objected here, as will

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- hardly suffer that form, which they cry up here as the only just
reformation, to go on so smoothly here as it might do in
Scotland. *King Charles.*
5. A confederacy; an association; a small band.
Oh you pandering rascals! there's a knot, a gang, a confederacy
against me. *Shakespeare, Merry Wives of Windsor.*
What is there here in Rome that can delight thee?
Where not a foul, without thine own foul knot,
But fears and hates thee. *Ben. Johnson's Catiline.*
A knot of good fellows borrowed a sum of money of a
gentleman upon the king's highway. *L'Estrange.*
I am now with a knot of his admirers, who make request
that you would give notice of the window where the knight
intends to appear. *Addison's Spectator.*
6. Difficulty; intricacy.
A man shall be perplexed with knots and problems of busi-
ness, and contrary affairs, where the determination is dubious,
and both parts of the contrariety seem equally weighty; so
that, which way soever the choice determines, a man is sure
to venture a great concern. *South's Sermons.*
7. Any intrigue, or difficult perplexity of affairs.
When the discovery was made that the king was living,
which was the knot of the play untied, the rest is shut up in
the compass of some few lines, because nothing then hindered
the happiness of Timonid and Leonora. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*
8. A cluster; a collection.
The way of fortune is like the milky way in the sky,
which is a meeting or knot of a number of small stars, not
seen afunder, but giving light together. *Bacon's Essay.*
In a picture, besides the principal figures which compose it,
and are placed in the midst of it, there are less groups or
knots of figures disposed at proper distances, which are parts
of the piece, and seem to carry on the same design in a more
inferior manner. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*
- TO KNOT. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To complicate into knots.
Happy we who from such queens are freed,
That were always telling beads:
But here's a queen when the rides abroad
Is always knotting threads. *Sidley.*
2. To untangle; to perplex.
3. To unite.
The party of the papists in England are become more
knotted, both in dependence towards Spain, and amongst them-
selves. *Bacon's War with Spain.*
- TO KNOT. *v. n.*
1. To form buds, knots, or joints in vegetation.
Cut hay when it begins to knot. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
2. To knit knots for fringes.
KNOTTERRYBUSH. *n. f.* A plant. *Ains.*
- KNOTGRASS. *n. f.* [knot and grass.] A plant.
- KNOTTED. *adj.* [from knot.] Full of knots.
The knotted oaks shall show's of honey weep. *Dryden.*
- KNOTTINESS. *n. f.* [from knotty.] Fullness of knots; uneven-
ness; intricacy; difficulty.
Virtue was represented by Hercules naked, with his lion's
skin and knotted club; by his oaken club is signified reason
ruling the appetite; the knottiness thereof, the difficulty they
have that seek after virtue. *Peachment on Drawing.*
- KNOTTY. *adj.* [from knot.]
1. Full of knots.
I have seen tempests, when the scolding winds
Have riv'd the knotty oaks. *Shakespeare, Julius Caesar.*
The timber in some trees more clean, in some more knotty:
try it by speaking at one end, and laying the ear at the other;
for if it be knotty, the voice will not pass well. *Bacon.*
The knotty oaks their lifting branches bow. *Reformation.*
One with a brand yet burning from the flames,
Arm'd with a knotty club another came. *Dryden's En.*
Where the vales with violets once were crown'd,
Now knotty burrs and thorns defiance the ground:
Come, shepherds, come, and fire with leaves the plain;
Such funeral rites your Daphnis did ordain. *Dryden.*
2. Hard; rugged.
Valiant fools
Were made by nature for the wife to work with:
They are their tools; and 'tis the sport of statemen,
When heroes knock their knotty heads together,
And fall by one another. *Rome's Ambitious Stepmother.*
3. Intricate; perplexed; difficult; embarrassed.
King Henry, in the very entrance of his reign, when the
kingdom was cast in his arms, met with a point of great dif-
ficulty, and knotty to solve, able to trouble and confound the
wisest kings. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
Princes exercised skill in putting intricate questions; and
he that was the best at the untying of knotty difficulties, carried
the prize. *L'Estrange.*
Some on the bench the knotty laws untie.
They compliment, they fit, they chat,
Fight o'er the wars, reform the state;
A thousand knotty points they clear,
'Till supper and my wife appear. *Prior.*

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- TO KNOW. *v. a.* preter. *I knew, I have known.* [cnyayan
Saxon.]
1. To perceive with certainty, whether intuitive or discursi-
ve.
O, that a man might know
The end of this day's business ere it come! *Shakespeare.*
The memorial of virtue is immortal, because it is known
with God and with men. *Wisd. iv. 1.*
The gods all things know.
Not from experience, for the world was new,
He only from their cause their natures knew. *Denham.*
We doubt not, neither can we properly say we think we
admire and love you above all other men: there is a certainty
in the proposition, and we know it. *Dryden.*
When a man makes use of the name of any simple idea,
which he perceives is not understood, or is in danger to be
mistaken, he is obliged by the laws of ingenuity, and the end
of speech, to declare his meaning, and make known what idea
he makes it stand for. *Locke.*
2. To be informed of; to be taught.
Ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why his
hand is not removed from you. *1 Sa. vi. 3.*
Led on with a desire to know
What nearer might concern him. *Milton.*
One would have thought you had known better things than
to expect a kindness from a common enemy. *L'Estrange.*
3. To distinguish.
Numeration is but the adding of one unit more, and giving
to the whole a new name, whereby to know it from those be-
fore and after, and distinguish it from every smaller or greater
multitude of units. *Locke.*
4. To recognise.
What a monstrous fellow art thou, thus to rail on me, that
is neither known of thee, nor knows thee? *Shakespeare.*
They told what things were done in the way, and how he
was known of them in breaking of bread. *Lu. xxiv. 35.*
At nearer view he thought he knew the dead,
And call'd the wretched man to mind. *Flatman.*
Tell me how I may know him. *Milton.*
5. To be no stranger to.
What are you?
—A most poor man, made tame to fortune's blows,
Who, by the art of known and feeling sorrows,
Am pregnant to good pity. *Shak. King Lear.*
6. To converse with another sex.
And Adam knew Eve his wife. *Gen. iv. 4.*
7. To see with approbation.
They have reigned, but not by me; they have set a fei-
nory over themselves, but I know nothing of it. *Hofea.*
- TO KNOW. *v. n.*
1. To have clear and certain perception; not to be doubtful.
I know of a surety that the Lord hath sent his angel, and
delivered me out of the hand of Herod. *Act. xii. 11.*
2. Not to be ignorant.
When they know within themselves they speak of that
they do not well know, they would nevertheless seem to others
to know of that which they may not well speak. *Bacon's Essays, No. 27.*
Not to know of things remote, but know
That which before us lies in daily life,
Is the prime wisdom. *Milton.*
In the other world there is no consideration that will fling
our consciences more cruelly than this, that we did wickedly,
when we knew to have done better; and chose to make our-
selves miserable, when we understood the way to have been
happy. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
They might understand those excellencies which they
blindly valued, so as not to be farther imposed upon by bad
pieces, and to know when nature was well imitated by the
most able masters. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*
3. To be informed.
The prince and Mr. Pons will put on two of our jerkins
and aprons, and sit John must not know of it. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*
There is but one mineral body, that we know of, heavier
than common quicksilver. *Boyle.*
4. To know far. To have knowledge of. A colloquial ex-
pression.
He said the water itself was a good healthy water; but for
the party that own'd it, he might have more diseases than he
knew for. *Shakespeare, Henry IV.*
5. To know of. In Shakespeare, is to take cognizance of; to
examine.
Fair Hermia, question your desires;
Know of your youth, examine well your blood,
Whether, if you yield not to your father's choice,
You can endure the livery of a nun,
For a yoke to be in shady cloister mew'd. *Shakespeare.*
KNOWABLE. *adj.* [from know.] Cognoscible; possible to be
discovered or understood.
These are resolved into a confessed ignorance, and I shall

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- not pursue them to their old asylum; and yet it may be, there
is more knowable in these than in less acknowledged my-
steries. *Glavin. Scpf.*
- 'Tis plain, that under the law of works is comprehended
also the law of nature, knowable by reason, as well as the
law given by Moses. *Locke.*
- These two arguments are the voices of nature, the unani-
mous suffrages of all real beings and substances created, that
are naturally knowable without revelation. *Bentley.*
- KNOWER. *n. f.* [from know.] One who has skill or know-
ledge.
If we look on a vegetable as made of earth, we must
have the true theory of the nature of that element, or we
miserably fail of our scientific aspirations; and while we can
only say 'tis cold and dry, we are pitiful knowers. *Glavin.*
I know the respect and reverence which in this address I
ought to appear in before you, who are a general knower of
mankind and poetry. *Southern.*
- KNOWING. *adj.* [from know.]
1. Skillful; well instructed; remote from ignorance.
You have heard, and with a knowing ear,
That he, which hath our noble father slain,
Pursu'd my life. *Shak. Hamlet.*
The knowings of these have of late reformed their hy-
pothesis. *Boyle.*
What makes the clergy glorious is to be knowing in their
profession, unpotted in their lives, active and laborious in
their charges. *South.*
The necessity of preparing for the offices of religion was a
lesson which the mere light and dictates of common reason,
without the help of revelation, taught all the knowing and in-
telligent part of the world. *South's Sermons.*
Gio Bellino, one of the first who was of any consideration
at Venice, painted very drily, according to the manner of his
time: he was very knowing both in architecture and per-
spective. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*
All animals of the same kind, which form a society, are
more knowing than others. *Addison's Guardian.*
2. Confiscious; intelligent.
Could any but a knowing prudent Cause
Begin such motions and assign such laws?
If the Great Mind had form'd a different frame,
Might not your wanton wit the system blame? *Blackmore.*
- KNOWING. *n. f.* [from know.] Knowledge.
Let him be so entertain'd as suits gentlemen of your knowing
to a stranger of his quality. *Shakespeare.*
- KNOWINGLY. *adv.* [from knowing.] With skill; with know-
ledge.
He knowingly and wittingly brought evil into the world.
They who before were rather fond of it than knowingly ad-
mired it, might defend their inclination by their reason. *More's Divine Dialogues.*
To the private duties of the closet he repaired, as often
as he entered upon any business of consequence: I speak
knowingly. *Athenbury's Sermons.*
- KNOWLEDGE. *n. f.* [from know.]
1. Certain perception; indubitable apprehension.
Knowledge, which is the highest degree of the speculative
faculties, consists in the perception of the truth of affirmative
or negative propositions. *Locke.*
2. Learning; illumination of the mind.
Ignorance is the curse of God,
Knowledge the wing wherewith we fly to heav'n. *Shakespeare.*
3. Skill in any thing.
Do but say to me what I should do,
That in your knowledge may be my doing,
And I am prest unto it. *Shak. Merchant of Venice.*
4. Acquaintance with any fact or person.
The dog straight fawn'd upon his master for old know-
ledge. *Sidney.*
That is not forgot,
Which ne'er I did remember; to my knowledge
I never in my life did look on him. *Shakespeare, Rich. II.*
5. Cognizance; notice.
Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldst
take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger? *Ruth ii. 10.*
A state's anger should not take
Knowledge either of fools or women. *Ben. Johnson's Catil.*
6. Information; power of knowing.
I pulled off my headpiece, and humbly entreated her par-
don, or knowledge why she was cruel. *Sidney.*
- TO KNOWLEDGE. *v. a.* [not in use.] To acknowledge; to
avow.
The prophet Hofea tells us that God faith of the Jews,
they have reigned, but not by me; which proveth plainly,
that there are governments which God doth not avow: for
though they be ordained by his secret providence, yet they are
not acknowledged by his revealed will. *Bacon's holy War.*
- TO KNOWLEDGE. *v. a.* [not in use.] To beat. *Skinner.*